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1925.

Annual Report

AND

Vital Statistics

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF BUCKLOW.

BY

ARTHUR T. BLEASE,

M.B., Ch.B.Vict., M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.L.,

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District, and also
for the Urban District of Knutsford; Medical Adviser to
the Bucklow Joint Hospital Board; etc.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1925

A SURVEY REPORT.

The Annual Report for 1925, according to the Ministry of Health, is expected to be a Survey Report covering a period of five years: and showing the progress that has been made in the improvement of Public Health Services during that time. There does not appear to be, when looking back over that period, a great deal to report, a distinct advancement however, has been made.

The improvement of housing conditions by the erection of working class houses—erected to be let at a rent which it is hoped the working classes will be able to pay. This work was commenced late on in 1925, but other schemes are under consideration, and, I have no doubt, will be proceeded with.

Water supply in this district has not advanced very far, except in parishes where pipe water service exists and there has been an extension of mains where required. The only really distinct advancement being in the township of Carrington where the supply was very inadequate and where now an ample supply is available. There are other parishes which would welcome a pipe water supply, but they are so remote from such services as to make the cost of a supply prohibitive. They have still to depend on wells and rain-water tanks. Schemes have been under consideration for improvements as to sewerage, and sewage disposal. A new works at Northenden has recently been commenced. Improvements are also being carried out at the Mobberley works. Improvements somewhat smaller in character, are being carried out at Timperley and Dunham Massey works. Another scheme for the treatment of Timperley sewage is at present being considered.

There has been considerable change in the Scavenging work of the district. In 1923 the carrying out of this work by contract was entirely abolished, and a scheme for carrying out the work by the Council's own staff and motor lorries was inaugurated, and has given considerable satisfaction.

The work of food inspection has been rigidly carried out in spite of some attempt at opposition. The carrying out of the new Orders issued by the Ministry of Health has greatly increased the work in this department, but such work has been carried on as well as it has been humanly possible.

Ample hospital accommodation is provided for all infectious cases. Anti-toxin is provided for diphtheria cases and the doctors are paid a fee of 5/- for the taking of specimens for Bacteriological Examination in suspected cases of certain diseases. Maternity and Child Welfare work is dealt with by the Health Visitors of the County Council.

The above Survey, as pointed out, perhaps does not look very much, but it does show some advancement, and the efficiency of the Health services has been kept up to the high standard of the past years.

ARTHUR T. BLEASE,

Medical Officer of Health

The Rural District of Bucklow.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1925.

PART I.

Area of District, in Acres, 56,892.

Estimated Population 1925, 22,330.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 5,217.

Number of Working Class Houses, 3,181.

Number of Families or Separate Occupiers, 5,200.

Rateable Value, £215,064.

Public Health, Reduced Assessable Value, £160,351.

A penny rate on reduced Assessable Value produces
£668 2s. 7d.

Birth Rate per 1,000 living, 12.6.

General Birth Rate (England and Wales), 18.3.

Death Rate per 1,000 living, 9.6.

General Death Rate (England and Wales), 12.2.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, child-
birth, 1.

Deaths under one year in proportion to 1,000 Births, 64.

Deaths under one year in proportion to 1,000 Births
throughout England and Wales, 75.

Deaths from Measles, 0.

Deaths from Whooping-cough, 3.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years old) 1.

The Total Number of Deaths from all causes was 216, of
which 18 were children under one year old, and
99 were persons of over 65 years.

PART II.—TABLES.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1925 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Gross Population.	Nett Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFER-ABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
			Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
				Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1911	22951	21979	417	...	19.0	262	...	38	34	46	110	238	11.7
1912	23262	22290	408	...	18.0	247	...	39	32	23	59	240	10.8
1913	23511	22600	374	...	16.5	258	...	76	30	34	91	212	9.7
1914	23609	22646	414	419	18.5	317	...	93	44	24	57	268	12.3
1915	23186	22462	358	360	16.0	324	...	104	49	39	108	269	12.4
1916	23749	22316	323	331	14.8	385	...	183	41	26	78	243	11.2
1917	23749	22316	324	327	14.6	382	...	200	43	22	67	225	10.4
1918	For birth-rate 22538 For death-rate 20219		320	325	14.4	476	...	192	49	20	62	284	14.0
1919	For birth-rate 24751 For death-rate 23761		316	318	12.8	419	...	205	50	24	75	264	11.1
1920	24360		407	408	16.7	338	...	176	40	23	56	202	8.2
1921	22240		333	337	15.1	357	...	182	51	18	53	226	10.1
1922	22250		...	365	15.9	380	...	214	58	17	38	224	10.0
1923	22250		...	283	12.7	410	...	245	48	16	56	213	9.5
1924	22320		...	308	18.2	418	...	220	40	10	36	238	10.6
1925	22330		...	282	12.6	415	...	212	59	18	64	216	9.6

TABLE II.

Diseases Notified under Acts and Orders during 1925.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.		65 and upwards.
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera—Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)...	28	8	6	7	5	2	21	2
Erysipelas ...	8	...	...	...	3	4	30	...
Scarlet Fever ...	82	13	60	6	3	...	...	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	18	...	...	3	14	...	1	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	28	14	1	...	4	3	6	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	172	37	68	17	32	9	8	53

TABLE III.

Deaths Registered during the Calendar Year 1925 classified by age and cause.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 & under 2 years.	2 & under 5 years.	5 & under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	45 & under 65 years.	65 & up- wards.	
All Causes	{ Certified .. Uncertified	216 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	199 0
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza	..	7	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	4	..
Erysipelas	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	16	..	..	..	..	2	12	2	..	192
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	15	3
Rheumatic Fever	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Diabetes	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Meningitis	..	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Organic Heart Disease	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	9	..
Bronchitis	..	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	11	..
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	15	..	..	1	..	1	1	4	8	..
Other Diseases of Respira- tory Organs	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	3	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	..	26	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	20	..
Alcoholism	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	..	11	..	..	..	..	1	4	3	3	..
Arterio-sclerosis	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Puerperal Fever	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Other Accidents and Dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth	..	12	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	13	..	..	1	..	3	2	6	1	..
Suicide	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
Other Defined Diseases	..	32	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	25	2
Diseases ill-defined or un- known	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	216	18	2	5	3	7	29	53	99	199

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality.

1925. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	Certified	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Uncertified	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Small-pox	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chicken-pox	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Measles	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Scarlet Fever	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Whooping Cough	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Diphtheria and Croup	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Erysipelas	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
	Convulsions	...	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{	Laryngitis	..	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	..	..	1	..	..	1
{	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gastro-enteritis	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	..	..	1
{	Gastritis	...	..	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
{	Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
	Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
{	Injury at Birth	...	...	..	...	...	..	..	..	..	..
	Atelectasis	...	1	...	...	1	...	..	..	..	1
{	Congenital Malformations	..	...	...	...	..	...	..	..	1	1
	Premature Birth	..	1	1	2	4	2	...	..	..	6
{	Atrophy, Debility, & Marasmus...	2	...	...	...	2	1	..	..	..	3
	Other Causes	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	..	..	1
Totals		..	5	1	2	8	5	1	3	1	18

Nett Births registered } legitimate 268
during the calendar year } illegitimate 14

Nett Deaths registered } legitimate infants 16
during the calendar year of } illegitimate infants 2

TABLE V.
Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

Year.	Rare Diseases.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Measles.	TOTAL.
1890	—	26	5	5	1	2	—	—	—	39
1891	—	28	5	7	—	8	—	—	—	48
1892	—	68	8	18	2	11	—	—	—	107
1893	—	193	18	14	1	14	—	—	—	240
1894	1(a)	116	40	7	2	16	—	—	—	182
1895	2(a)	39	19	11	3	5	—	—	—	79
1896	—	31	9	19	1	5	—	—	—	65
1897	—	42	3	8	—	6	—	—	—	59
1898	—	19	11	6	—	9	—	—	—	45
1899	—	83	6	7	2	8	—	—	—	106
1900	—	79	8	6	—	3	—	—	—	96
1901	—	120	23	6	—	9	—	—	—	158
1902	—	46	37	6	4	9	—	—	—	102
1903	6(a)	52	25	7	—	7	—	—	—	97
1904	—	79	27	2	3	6	—	—	—	117
1905	—	58	31	2	3	14	—	—	—	108
1906	—	75	17	5	1	8	—	—	—	106
1907	—	53	9	4	1	5	—	—	—	72
1908	1(a)	65	25	2	2	10	—	—	—	105
1909	—	156	7	41	1	1	—	—	—	206
1910	—	94	14	6	1	8	—	—	—	123
1911	—	70	13	19	2	17	10	—	—	131
1912	—	28	6	2	1	5	32	—	—	74
1913	—	67	16	2	—	6	28	15	—	134
1914	3(b)	119	6	1	4	6	25	12	—	176
1915	3(c)	67	33	2	2	17	26	9	—	159
1916	4(d)	34	22	—	1	4	21	13	227	326
1917	—	16	9	1	1	7	27	14	293	368
1918	2(b)	29	18	—	3	9	22	4	413	500
1919	11(e)	37	16	1	—	7	24	7	61	164
1920	5(f)	87	23	2	—	11	19	6	—	153
1921	1(g)	126	40	2	1	6	19	10	—	205
1922	—	76	58	2	2	3	11	10	—	162
1923	5(h)	33	29	1	1	4	9	7	—	89
1924	4(g)	32	19	—	1	7	18	14	—	95
1925	3(i)	82	28	1	1	8	18	3	—	144

(a) Small-pox.

(b) ophthalmia neonatorum.

(c) 1 ophthalmia, 1 poliomyelitis, 1 cerebro-spinal fever.

(d) 3 ophthalmia, 1 cerebro-spinal fever.

(e) 1 acute polio-encephalitis, 1 ophthalmia neonatorum, 8 malaria, 1 dysentery.

(f) 4 ophthalmia, 1 malaria.

(g) 1 cerebro-spinal meningitis.

(h) 1 ophthalmia, 3 poliomyelitis, 1 encephalitis lethargica.

(i) 4 encephalitis lethargica.

(j) 1 poliomyelitis, 1 ophthalmia neonatorum, 1 encephalitis lethargica.

TABLE VI.
Deaths from Special Diseases.

Year.	Rare Diseases.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Whooping-cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.
1890	—	5	1	—	3	3	8	1	1	43	—
1891	—	1	1	1	5	4	6	—	—	40	—
1892	—	13	3	1	7	3	6	2	2	32	—
1893	2(a)	3	6	6	1	7	18	1	3	28	—
1894	—	1	4	5	8	1	5	1	3	29	—
1895	1(a)	—	2	5	3	4	2	3	1	22	—
1896	—	1	—	6	3	3	4	1	—	23	—
1897	—	16	1	2	1	3	15	—	—	26	—
1898	—	3	1	2	—	2	11	—	—	19	—
1899	—	—	3	1	7	3	16	2	1	29	—
1900	—	—	1	1	8	1	7	—	—	22	—
1901	—	1	2	5	8	2	10	—	1	15	—
1902	—	1	2	7	1	—	1	4	—	10	—
1903	2(a)	2	4	7	6	1	8	—	2	18	—
1904	—	1	2	2	7	1	8	1	1	17	—
1905	—	5	4	4	1	1	6	—	—	12	—
1906	—	4	—	4	—	—	11	1	—	15	—
1907	—	1	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	13	—
1908	—	2	1	6	7	—	5	—	—	10	—
1909	—	1	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	14	—
1910	—	3	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	9	—
1911	—	1	—	1	7	—	16	2	—	12	—
1912	—	5	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	15	—
1913	—	2	2	—	4	—	6	1	—	11	8
1914	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	16	7
1915	1(b)	2	3	3	3	—	—	1	—	13	6
1916	—	—	1	4	—	—	5	—	1	11	7
1917	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	8	3
1918	—	1	1	1	1	—	2	3	—	13	2
1919	1(c)	—	—	3	2	—	2	—	—	18	5
1920	—	1	1	3	2	1	2	—	—	10	4
1921	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	2	—	9	6
1922	—	1	—	4	2	1	2	2	—	8	4
1923	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1(d)	—	4	5
1924	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	8	5
1925	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	1	16	—

(a) Small-pox. (b) cerebro-spinal fever. (c) acute polio-encephalitis.

(d) post-abortion.

TABLE VII.

Tabular Statement of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year ended
December, 31st, 1925.

A Nature of Inspections Made.		Number	B Number of Notices served.		C - Result of Service of Notices.			
			Statu- tory.	Inform- al.	Notices compli- ed with.	Remain- ing in hand	Prosecutions, Insti- tuted.	Pend- ing.
1. Dwelling Houses (general inspections)	...	682	207	236	383	60	...	...
2. Cellar Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Back-to-Back Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	...	406	...	23	...	10	...	...
5. Courts, Yards, Passages	...	2220	...	94	88	6	...	...
6. Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets	...	3242	91	110	117	84	...	...
7. Cesspools	...	430	8	64	70	2	...	...
8. House Drainage	...	570	66	74	98	42	...	...
9. Ditches, Watercourses, &c.,	...	410	3	27	28	2	...	...
10. Offensive Accumulations	...	4	2	2	4	...	...	...
11. The keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3))	...	6	...	2	2	...	...	...
12. Offensive Trades	...	24	...	1	...	1	...	...
13. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) " (Private) and Farms	...	378	...	1	1	...	...	...
(c) Other Places where Food is produced or sold	...	430	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Piggeries	...	435	...	27	25	2	...	...
15. (a) Dairies	...	680	Lime- washing	1100	...	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds	...							
(c) Milkshops	...							
16. (a) Factories	...	192	...	3	3	...	...	...
(b) Workshops	...							
(c) Workplaces	...							
(d) Outworkers' Premises	...							
17. Bakehouses (Overground)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" (Underground)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Houses let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Smoke Observations	...	6	...	1	1	...	...	...
21. Canal Boats	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Infectious Disease Inquiries and Re-visits	...	269	14	37	51	...	...	...
23. Miscellaneous	...	1655	...	32	32	...	...	...
Totals	...	12077	391	1734	903	209	...	...

TABLE VIII.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK
DURING 1925.

I.—WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1925?—If so please append brief note. 171 yards in Dunham Massey, 261 yards in Northenden, 500 yards in Partington, 403 yards in Ringway, and 712 yards in Timperley. Total of 2047 yards.
2. Number of samples analysed during 1925—chemically ... 20.
bacteriologically 5.
3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water?—Mobberley.

II.—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1925?
The work of laying the 9" Sewer, 337 yards, in Oldfield Lane, Dunham Massey, was completed.
A serious subsidence was discovered on the Back Lane Sewer in this Township, the manhole having subsided over a foot and fracturing the Cast Iron Pipe Sewer. This was re-constructed.
In Timperley there were extensions to Sewers. Sewers re-laid or new Sewers as follows:—
Sngar Lane, 9" Sewer extension, 15 yards.
Moss Lane, 9" and 6" Sewer re-laid, 114 yards.
New Sewers by Builders—New Streets off Wash Street, Timperley, 15" Sewer, 76 yards, 9" Sewer, 78 yards, and 6" Sewer, 69 yards.
New Street, off Thorley Lane, 9" Sewer, 129 yards.
Hawthorn Avenue, 9" Sewer, 202 yards.
In Northen Etchells, off Northenden Road, 9" Sewer, 45 yards.
Brookdale Road and Thorntongate, 9" Sewer, 69 yards, and 6" Sewer, 97 yards. And all were connected to existing Sewers.
Attention was given to the cleaning and flushing of Sewers in the different Townships during the year.
2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers?— See previous Reports.
3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1925 as to the disposal works?—Yes. By the Inspector of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee.
4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1925?
DUNHAM MASSEY SEWAGE WORKS.—The work of clearing the land is being proceeded with.

TIMPERLEY SEWAGE WORKS.—The Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee are not satisfied with these works, and are asking for the Council's decision as to the future method of dealing with the sewage.

MOBBERLEY SEWAGE WORKS.—The 1924 Scheme, owing to difficulties, was abandoned, and a more comprehensive Scheme considered, but the cost proved to be prohibitive.

A Scheme of additions to existing works was prepared, and the work is now being proceeded with.

NORTHENDEN SEWAGE WORKS.—The Scheme approved by the Ministry of Health in February is being proceeded with.

The other land is being cleared and fenders constructed.

III.—HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1925?—121.
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under s. 17 Act of 1909 158.
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation—Nil.
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority—Nil.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority—Nil
6. Number of houses where defects remedied without closing orders being made—76.
7. Number of houses where defects remedied after closing orders made.—Nil.
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909—3152.
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1925—50.
10. Number of such houses closed after notice—Nil.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, etc.—Nil.
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district—Nil.
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district—Nil.
14. What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council, decided are required under the recent Housing Act? —There has been no recent decision on this matter. Twenty houses are now being built in Baguley.

IV.—TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1925 for your District or any part thereof? If so please make brief note of (a) part of District covered by scheme.

(b) Area.

(c) Population.

(d) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report?

Same as previous Report.

TABLE IX.

9.—HOUSING.

STATISTICS 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	121
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919, or 1923:	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil.
(ii) By other bodies or persons	41

1.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses in- spected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	682
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	158
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	50

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF
FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Auth- ority or their Officers	81
---	----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

**A. Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning,
etc., Act, 1919**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 207
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied —
- (a) by owners 147
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit 0
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

TABLE X.

Factories & Workshops. Cow-keepers & Milk-sellers.

TOWNSHIP.	Mr. Cordon.							Mr. Metcalfe.	
	Factories.	Workshops	Domestic Workshops	Total.	Inspections Made.	Defects Found.	Out-workers.	Cow-keepers.	Milk-sellers.
Agden ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	4
Ashley ...	—	2	1	3	1	1	—	23	19
Aston-by-Budworth	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	39	21
Baguley ..	2	7	—	9	10	2	—	18	7
Bexton ..	2	1	—	3	3	—	—	4	4
Bollington ...	1	2	—	3	6	—	—	10	7
Carrington ...	1	1	—	2	2	1	—	12	8
Dunham Massey ...	1	6	3	10	10	—	—	37	25
High Legh ...	2	2	2	6	5	1	—	56	44
Marshall ..	4	1	—	5	—	—	—	19	14
Mere ...	3	1	—	4	—	—	—	24	17
Millington ...	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	12	10
Mobberley ...	8	11	7	26	22	3	—	70	54
Northenden ...	4	27	16	47	38	2	—	13	12
Northen Etchells ...	1	1	3	5	10	—	—	18	10
Ollerton ..	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	13	12
Partington ..	4	3	1	8	14	1	—	11	6
Peover Inferior ..	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	6	5
Peover Superior ...	3	2	—	5	—	—	—	30	23
Pickmere ..	—	3	—	3	3	—	—	17	14
Plumbley ..	2	2	2	6	6	—	—	19	6
Ringway ...	1	1	2	4	4	—	—	24	20
Rostherne ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	11	7
Styal ...	3	3	3	9	10	—	—	17	12
Tabley Inferior ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4
Tabley Superior ...	—	3	5	8	—	—	—	21	11
Tatton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Timperley ...	7	10	11	28	42	3	—	11	7
Toft ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	9	5
Warburton ...	1	1	—	2	4	—	—	26	9
	53	97	58	208	192	14	—	580	397

The Rural District of Bucklow.

PART III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.—Ninety-eight Water Certificates were granted for new houses when a wholesome supply had been provided in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Section 6.

Sixty-three were supplied from the mains of the Manchester Corporation, twenty-eight from the Stockport Corporation mains and seven well water.

WATER ANALYSIS.—Twenty samples of water have been submitted to the County Analyst for analysis during the year, from the following townships :—

Tabley	1
Mobberley	6
Peover Inferior	1
Peover Superior	3
Ashley	2
Partington	1
Baguley	1
Pickmere	3
Plumbley	1
Ollerton	1

—
20
—

Three were returned as satisfactory and 17 as unsatisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples one was from Tabley, six from Mobberley, one from Peover Inferior, three from Peover Superior, one from Ashley, one from Baguley, two from Pickmere, one from Ollerton and one from Plumbley.

There were, in addition, five samples of water submitted for Bacteriological Examination. Two were satisfactory and three unsatisfactory. The three unsatisfactory were from Ollerton, Mobberley and Peover Superior. Where samples were unsatisfactory action was taken to obtain a satisfactory supply from other sources.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—Many inspections were made and samples taken during the year. Complaints were received about

the pollution of Mobberley Brook, Fairy Well Brook, Baguley Brook and the River Mersey.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—Forty-eight houses were completely re-drained during the year and amendments carried out to 34 others. In all cases the water test was applied and the drains proved to be sound and tight before being passed. One hundred and thirty-seven lengths of drains were tested in this way. Forty-two Privy Closets were converted to Water Closets, thirty-five Dry Ashpits were abolished and Dustbins were provided in each case for the reception of house refuse. Pails were substituted for Privy Closets at 7 houses where there was no sewer.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—The following figures are as close an estimate as possible: Water Closets 3,630; Waste-water Closets 12; Pails 645; Dry Ashpits 500; Dustbins 2,365; Cesspools 1,075; Privy Closets 598.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.—Scavenging work has been carried out regularly in the townships of Dunham Massey, Timperley, Northenden, Northen Etchells, Mobberley, Styal, Ashley, Baguley and Partington, by the Council's own staff of workmen and with three Ford ton lorries.

The Motor Haulage Scheme is worked from the Garage at Timperley and is giving satisfaction. The work has considerably increased since the work was commenced in 1923 and before long it will be necessary to consider the advisability of purchasing another lorry.

The work has been carried out in the same way as previously explained. All dustbins and pails are cleared and disinfected weekly, middens about every six weeks and Dry ashpits from one to three months according to size and usage. No refuse is now thrown on the roads, passages or yards by the scavengers, but is put into collecting tins and then straight into the covered lorries.

There is a considerable increase in the quantity of refuse to be removed, through garden refuse and other material being placed in the dustbins which could easily be burnt. If the people would only give proper attention to this matter the bulk of refuse to be removed and consequently the cost, for the removal would be much less.

The following table shows the work done during the twelve months ended December 31st, 1925 :

	Houses Visited.	Dry Ashpits.	Dust Bins.	Middens.	Pails.	Loads Removed.
Timperley ...	43170	618	41319	83	2065	1045
Dunham Massey	9221	181	14812	7	8	492
Northenden ...	35689	213	35828	84	677	684
Mobberley ...	5236	103	1743	93	5220	261
Styal ...	11692	33	5999	8	7334	232
Northen Etchells	6344	23	5750	27	2179	177
Baguley ...	1181	2	1149	—	423	46
Partington ...	2042	9	562	4	2220	60
Ashley ...	132	1	130	—	—	14
Totals ...	114707	1183	107292	306	20126	3011
During the year ending March, 1925	107907	2035	100485	399	17811	3094

**COST OF SCAVENGING WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR
ENDING MARCH 31st, 1925.**

MOTOR HAULAGE.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	1011	6	3
Unemployment Insurance	21	10	6
Health Insurance	10	19	7
Receipt Stamps	1	7	8
Superintendence	40	0	0
Motor Licences (3)	69	0	0
Motor Insurance	19	14	0
Workmen's Insurance Compensation Account	7	11	2
Petrol	159	2	10
Oil and Grease	10	6	10
Repairs and Renewals—Motor Lorries	46	8	7
Repairs and Renewals—Plant	6	7	10
Water	1	4	9
New Stock	4	4	11
Rent of Garage	16	12	11
Rent of Refuse Tips	33	6	0
Maintenance of Refuse Tips—Draining etc	19	11	10
Rates of Refuse Tips	3	15	0
Rates and Taxes	22	5	0
Stationery	2	5	3
Clerk's Petty Cash A/c.	0	2	0
Repayment of Loan and Interest on three Motor Lorries and Plant (4 years)	244	4	6
Repayment of Loan and Interest on Buildings (15 years)	23	3	2
Total	£ 1774	10	7

The following figures are given for easy reference :

Number of Dairies	391
„ Cowkeepers	580
„ Slaughter-houses	21
„ Milkshops	6
„ Butchers' Shops	10
„ Grocers' Shops	61
„ Fish, Fruiterers, and other Food Shops	13
„ Bakehouses	14
„ Factories	53
„ Workshops	97
„ Domestic Workshops	58
„ Outworkers	Nil
„ Water Closets	3,630
„ Dust-bins	2,365
„ Dry-Ashpits	500
„ Middens	598
„ New Houses Built	121
„ Buildings converted into Houses	Nil
„ Houses in District	5217
Estimated Population	22,330
„ „ (Registrar General)	22,330
Average number of persons per house	4.28
Population at Census 1901	19,850
„ „ 1911	22,870
„ „ 1921	22,149
Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	56,806

NUISANCE FROM PARTINGTON STEEL WORKS.—Complaints were received during the year with regard to very noxious fumes and dust being emitted from these works.

The Irlam U.D.C., Barton R.D.C., and Bucklow R.D.C., met together and conferred upon this matter. Professor Cobb of Leeds University was engaged to report upon the works and the processes carried out therein. His report was considered and the findings of the Councils' Representatives conveyed to the Management of the Steel Works.

It is to be hoped that during the coming year considerable improvement will be effected.

SPECIAL PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS.—There appears to be only one coming under this heading and that is the Paint Works at Partington.

No complaints were received during the year.

SCHOOLS.—These have been closed when considered necessary by the School Medical Officer of Health and disinfection has been carried out by the Council's staff when necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(A). **Milk Supply.**—Inspections of Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops has been carried out on the same lines as in previous years.

Two new cowsheds were built during the year and structural alterations carried out at a few others.

Special attention has been paid to the cleanliness of the cows, milkers, vessels and premises generally. Figures given in Table XII. have been revised.

Nine Tuberculous cows were dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925. No parts of the carcasses were found to be fit for food. Some of the cows reported in this district were slaughtered outside the district and were dealt with by the Authority in whose district the slaughter-house was situated. Several of these cows must have been giving tuberculous milk for some time before being notified. Everything that can be done should be done to discover early cases.

(B). **Meat.**—Meat inspection has been carried out and a great number of inspections made after notice under the Public Health Meat Regulations Order, 1924, were received. Several carcasses were condemned and these were surrendered, these in all cases being buried in Lime.

Notices were sent out to all farmers and pig-keepers in the district, calling their attention to the Public Health Meat Regulations 1924. In a few cases it has been necessary to give warning in respect of proper notice being given of the intention to slaughter.

Many applications were received from farmers for slaughter-house licenses but as it was found that slaughtering would only take place on these premises two or three times during the year, it was ultimately decided that such places be not licensed.

The licensed slaughter-houses in the district in 1920 and 1925 are set out in the statement below :

	In 1920.	In January 1925.	In December 1925.
Registered	—	—	—
nil		nil	nil
Licensed	17	21	22
—	—	—	—
Total	17	21	22
—	—	—	—

Particular attention was paid to shops, stores and vehicles to see that the regulations were being complied with. It was necessary in a few instances to call attention to some irregularities but in these cases the requests were readily complied with by the persons concerned.

(C). **Other Foods.**—Attention was given to food inspection—grocers' shops, fish shops, and other places where food was exposed for sale or in preparation for sale.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—These appear somewhat numerous in the Tables, but as of the 110 cases there noted of diphtheria and scarlet fever combined, no less than 48 were in institutions belonging to other authorities and with which we have no concern beyond recording them, the real position as regards our own cases is that we have had a very good year in this respect.

Diphtheria anti-toxin in 8,000 unit phials is available, day and night for practitioners who require it. Supplies are kept at the Altrincham Office (27, Station Buildings) and at the residence of the Medical Officer of Health, and that of the Sanitary Inspector. The last named Officer is now on the telephone at his residence (No. 491 Altrincham). In the case of Doctors in the more remote parts of the District the Council continues to pay their chemist's bills for anti-toxin.

Hospital accommodation is adequate and unchanged

Measles cases (not now notifiable) were visited by the Council's Measles Visitor.

THE HALE DIPHTHERIA EPIDEMIC.—This epidemic which began on December 4th 1924 and affected 63 persons in Hale, 11 in the Bucklow Rural District, 15 in Bowdon, and 5 in Altrincham caused an immense amount of suffering, lasting until May, 1925, and involved the Councils and individuals concerned in financial loss, which I estimate at about £20,000. Owing to early recognition and the fact that all doctors concerned made immediate and adequate use of sufficiently large doses of anti-toxin, only one death occurred.

I learned of the first cases (which occurred in Hale) late on Friday, December 5th, 1924, and also was informed that the factor common to them all was that their milk was obtained via a shop in Hale, from Lower House Farm, at Ashley. Early on Saturday, December 6th, I visited this farm and found four persons there suffering from sore throats which had not been recognised as diphtheria.

There did not appear to be any doubt they were diphtheria, but in order to have conclusive proof, I took specimens from the throats of seven persons, namely the four with sore throats and three others. At 11-30 a.m. on Monday, December 8th I heard from the Manchester Public Health Laboratory that six out of the seven persons had proved to contain diphtheria bacilli. I went at once to the farm and arranged for the removal of all six to Monsall Hospital. This was done at 3-30 p.m. the same day. The affected persons were the farmer, his wife, a lodger and his little boy and two male farm hands. One of the latter had been suffering from a septic finger, apparently diphtheritic, and in milking had caused or infected a sore on the udder of a cow, and also infected with diphtheria a little girl at a farm at Tabley who had sat on his knee when he called there.

Diphtheria bacilli were found in the sore on the udder and on injection into a guinea-pig caused its death in less than 24 hours. Another two guinea-pigs were inoculated, No. 1 as before and No. 2 as before plus a dose of antitoxin. No. 1 of this pair died and No. 2 was unaffected. Thus was proved not only the presence of diphtheria bacilli in the udder sore but also the high degree of virulence they possessed and the complete efficacy of the anti-toxin.

The Hale Medical Officer of Health forbid the sale of milk from the farm on Sunday, December 7th, and on the following Tuesday due notice having been given, The Hale Council, at a meeting at which the farmer (who was in hospital) was represented by his father and father-in-law, made an order under Section 4 of the Infectious

Disease Prevention Act 1820, officially prohibiting the sale of milk in Hale from that farm until they withdrew the Order.

The bacteriological examinations referred to were made by Professor Topley, The Director of the Manchester Public Health Laboratory. The reputation of this laboratory is at least as high as any in the world and Professor Topley advised the Hale Council that as it was impossible during the Cow's life to ascertain whether any diphtheria bacilli were alive in the interior of the udder, the only safe course was that the cow should be slaughtered, and the farmer was advised this should be done. If it had been slaughtered its flesh would have been quite fit for human food and the total loss namely the difference between the value of the carcass as meat and the nominal value of the cow as a milker would have been about £5.

This one would have thought the farmer would gladly have suffered in order to conclude the whole matter and get the Order withdrawn, but he refused and the Order was kept in force. After this state of affairs had existed for some time, the wisdom of the advice given by Professor Topley, (which would also have been the advice by any doctor possessed of honesty and ordinary knowledge) was shown by two occurrences which suggest that the infection did persist at least for several months after the farmer contended it must be non-existent because the sore was healed.

Firstly, two persons on a neighbouring farm kept by relatives of the farmer whose sale of milk in Hale was prohibited were found to have diphtheria bacilli in their throats, one case was an ordinary bad one and the other very mild, possibly a carrier only. There had been frequent coming and going between these two farms. (No cows were affected on this second farm, no infection of milk occurred, the people did exactly as they were told and their difficulties were soon over.

Secondly, a gentleman made a boast that he had been to Lower House Farm, drunk some milk from the cow in question and had not been ill.

He was a healthy middle-aged man so this was not conclusive as only a small percentage of such are susceptible to diphtheria, but they can easily act as carriers, and, as it happened, his experiment was followed by an otherwise unexplained outbreak of diphtheria in the district where he lived.

Later the Hale Council began to receive threatening letters from a firm of London solicitors, certificates from veterinary surgeons and so on.

No one with the slightest understanding of the position would have imagined for a moment that any veterinary examination of the herd was of any interest re the question of withdrawal of the Order.

With Professor Topley's information and advice to guide them, and secure in the legal position that they themselves, not solicitors or veterinary surgeons in the employ of the farmer, were the people to be satisfied before they were required to withdraw the Order, the Hale Council kept it in force.

Eventually an action was brought in the High Court of Justice by the farmer backed by the Farmers' Union, a full account of the trial copied from the "Times" of February 24th, 1926, is here reproduced.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

KING'S BENCH DIVISION

MILK FROM AN INFECTED COW.

THE KING v. HALE U.D.C. (EX PARTE WRIGHT).

Before the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Slater, and Mr. Justice Branson).

This case came on for argument to-day, when the Hale Urban District Council, Cheshire, appeared to show cause against rules **nisi** for **mandamus** or **certiorari** which had been obtained by Mr. James Wright for quashing an order made by that council in December 1924, prohibiting him (Mr. Wright) from supplying milk within the Hale Council area. The order was made under section 4 of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The material part of the section is as follows:—

In case the medical officer of health is in possession of evidence that any person in the district is suffering from infectious disease attributable to milk supplied within the district from any dairy situate within or without the district, or that the consumption of milk from such dairy is likely to cause infectious disease to any person residing in the district, such medical officer shall, if authorized in that behalf by an order of a justice having jurisdiction in the place where such dairy is situate, have power to inspect such dairy, and, if accompanied by a veterinary inspector or some other properly qualified veterinary surgeon, to inspect the animals therein, and if on such inspection the medical officer of health shall be of opinion that infectious disease is caused from consumption of the milk supplied therefrom, he shall report thereon to the local authority, and his report shall be accompanied by any report furnished to him by the said veterinary inspector or veterinary surgeon, and the local authority may thereupon give notice to the dairyman to appear before them within such time, not less than 24 hours as may be specified in the notice, to show cause why an order should not be made requiring him not to supply any milk therefrom within the district until such order has been withdrawn by the local authority, and if, in the opinion of the local authority, he fails to show such cause, then the local authority may make such order as aforesaid; and the local authority shall forthwith give notice of the facts to the sanitary authority and county council (if any) of the district or county in which such dairy is situate, and also to the Local Government Board. An order made by the local authority in pursuance of this section shall be forthwith withdrawn on the local authority, or the medical officer of health on its behalf, being satisfied that the milk supply has been changed, or that the cause of the infection has been removed.

The Hon. Sir Malcolm Macnaghten, K.C., and Mr. Morle appeared for the Hale Urban District Council; Mr. Schiller K.C., and Mr. William Aleen for Mr. Wright; Mr. W. Bowstead represented the Ministry of Health.

Sir Malcolm Macnaghten, in showing cause against the rules, said that Mr. Wright was a farmer in the neighbourhood, and down to the date of the order he was supplying milk to a dairy. In the first

week of December, 1924, a somewhat alarming epidemic of diphtheria broke out in Hale, and the cause of the infection was traced to the dairy. It was then ascertained that the milk came from Lower House Farm, Ashley, belonging to Mr. Wright, which was situated not in the area of the Hale Council, but in that of Bucklow, which adjoined Hale. The medical officers of the two councils acted promptly, and it was discovered that six out of seven persons at the farm were suffering from diphtheria. They were sent to the hospital, and the Hale Council served a notice under the Act calling upon Mr. Wright to show cause why an order should not be made prohibiting any further supply of milk from the farm. When the notice was served, Mr. Wright was in hospital, but his father-in-law, who was a member of the Cheshire County Council, received the notice, attended a special meeting of the Hale Urban District Council on the following day, and, as fresh notifications of diphtheria were coming in and the epidemic was becoming alarming, consented to the order being made at once. No complaint was made of the order until a year later, when the Court was asked to grant a rule for **mandamus** to compel the Hale Council to withdraw the order on the ground that it was void because the conditions of the section had not been complied with.

When the order was made, added counsel, watch was kept on the farm, and it was discovered that a roan cow had diphtheria germs in a sore udder. The sore had since healed, but there were apparently no scientific means of telling whether a cow was free of the germs. Apparently a cow suffering from diphtheria could be safely sold to a butcher for meat, and its value would be little less than the value of a milker. It would be a very simple solution to get rid of the cow, but a certain amount of obstinacy was being displayed. If there were any irregularities in the making of the original order, his (counsel's) answer was that strict compliance with the conditions of the section was waived because of the urgency of the matter, and Mr. Wright could not now be allowed to complain of irregularities in the order. The cow had since had a calf, and from time to time the cow's milk had been examined and nothing wrong was found with it. Diphtheritic germs, however, cultivated themselves very successfully in milk, and that was why milk from an infected cow might be so dangerous. If the cow in question was slaughtered the loss involved could not be more than £5.

The Lord Chief Justice.—That would not cover the costs in this case.

Sir Malcolm Macnaghten—No; but some bovine obstinacy is being displayed.

Mr. Schiller said that his friend must not say that. There was an important principle involved as to whether these local authorities could impose conditions of slaughter. The Board of Agriculture alone could do that.

Sir Malcolm Macnaghten said that the local authorities did not claim the right to order a cow to be slaughtered. All they claimed

was the right to keep the order in force so long as the cow remained alive in the district.

Mr. Schiller, in supporting the rules, contended that there had never been any waiver of the irregularities. The Act under which the order was made had not been complied with by the Hale Council in any essential respect. It was therefore bad and should be quashed. At the time the order was made Mr. Wright, who was himself in hospital with diphtheria, had no knowledge of it, and it could not therefore be said that he had waived compliance with any of the requirements of the section. The effect of the order had been that for more than a year an embargo had been placed by the Council upon all the milk from this farm. That was a strong measure.

The Lord Chief Justice asked whether it would not be an equally strong measure if the Court were to say to the Council and two medical officers that the order must be removed and that the risks which they said were involved should be taken.

JUDGMENT.

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said that it was quite clear that there had been some irregularities, although, when one took all the circumstances into consideration, such irregularities were not of a large or comprehensive character. If a little more attention had been paid to the faithful observance of the conditions of the section the controversy need never have arisen. Upon the question, however, whether, in the circumstances the applicant was entitled to a writ of **certiorari**, he his (his Lordship) was clearly of opinion that he was not; he had disentitled himself from pursuing that remedy.

Then it was said that he was entitled to a writ of **mandamus** to compel the Hale authority to hear and determine according to law an application that this order should be presently withdrawn. The question was whether it was safe that milk should be distributed for human consumption from this farm while there remained on the farm a certain cow which had had a lesion on one of its udders clearly exhibiting diphtheric germs—a cow which was a sort of reservoir of potential diphtheria, wherever it was, and might on some slight occasion become active and energetic instead of merely potential. They had to take the responsibility of deciding whether, with this cow, upon it, the Hale Council should authorize the distribution of milk from the farm. It was quite clear that the Council and the medical officer of health had directed their minds to the question, and that the position they had taken up was that they were willing that the order should be withdrawn if and when it was reported to them that the farm had a clean bill of health and that the cause of infection had been removed. The medical officer of health had taken the view that while the roan cow was upon the farm it was too risky to allow milk to come from the farm for human consumption. In those circumstances there was no area in which a writ of **mandamus** could operate. The Council said that, as matters now stood, they were not satisfied that the cause of infection had been removed, but

they offered to take a different view if that cow were taken away. That was quite a different thing from an order for the slaughter of the cow. When one saw the difference in figures between the value of the cow for the production of milk and as butcher's meat he (his Lordship) could not help thinking that there had been an unedifying degree of obstinacy displayed. This was not a case for a writ of **mandamus**, any more than it was a case for a writ of **certiorari**, and the rules should be discharged.

Mr. Justice Slater and Mr. Justice Branson agreed, and the rules were discharged, with costs.

Solicitors.—Messrs. Mellor and Coleman, agents for Mr. C. A. Buckley, of Manchester; Messrs Ellis and Fairbairn; the Solicitor to the Ministry of Health.

LABORATORY WORK.—Arrangements with Manchester Public Health Laboratory have been continued. The following examinations were carried out:

Diphtheria 162 (28 positive)
Typhoid Fever 3 (all negative)
Tuberculosis 3 (2 positive)

TUBERCULOSIS.—The year 1925 is the first in which there were no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, but the deaths from the pulmonary type were higher than for any one of the last five years. Notification is satisfactory—no evidence of deaths of un-notified cases.

Sanatorium arrangements are in the hands of the County Council. The County Council examined 54 specimens of sputum from this district in 1925 of which 10 were positive.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The number of infantile deaths was 18 as compared with 10 in 1924; 16 in 1923; and 17 in 1922.

LOCAL OR ADOPTIVE ACTS.—There are no Local Acts. The Adoptive Acts are the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act; the P.H. A.A.A. 1890, Part III; the P.H.A.A.A. 1907, Sections 15, 16, 23, 52 to 75 whole District; 34 to 46 Dunham Massey, Northenden and Timperley only. The adoption of other sections is contemplated. The "administration" is part of the regular work of the officers. The revision of Bye-laws as to New Streets and Buildings has been completed.

Public Health Staff consists of:—

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector. (Half Salaries of these Officers refunded by the County Council).

Clerk, and One Health Visitor for Measles and Whooping Cough Cases who is paid a retaining fee, and for work done as occasion requires.

On the Engineering side (which is now combined with the Highways Department) are Engineer and Surveyor, three Assistants and one Clerk.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—A systematic round of inspection has been made throughout the District. The number of the Register is as follows:—

Factories	53
Workshops (including Bakehouses) and Workplaces	97
Domestic Workshops	58

TOTAL—208

The total number of inspections made amounted to 192.

Three Informal Notices were served for minor defects at Workshops and were complied with.

H.M. Inspector of Factories has paid visits to the district during the year and the general organisation of this work was discussed.

CANAL BOATS.—An endeavour has been made to fulfil the provisions of the Canal Boats Acts and visits and inspections were made in respect of 38 Boats. These Boats were registered for 129 persons and when inspected were carrying 57 men, 19 women and 10 children the last named being under school age. A good standard of cleanliness was found and the Boats were generally in good repair and condition.

No cases of infectious diseases were reported from Canal Boats in the district and none were met with.

BUILDING PLANS.—During the year 216 plans relating to 477 permanent and 49 temporary buildings received the consideration of the Health and Plans Committee. Of these 200 were approved on first submission, 14 were referred back and 2 were disapproved.

		Plans
... ..		
Dwelling Houses	... 376	81
Brick Bungalows	... 11	10
Additions and Alterations	... 21	21
Farm Buildings	... 4	4
New Streets	... 13	9
Temporary Bungalows	... 14	14
Garages	... 55	51
Miscellaneous	... 32	26
	—	—
Total ...	526	216
	—	—

121 Dwelling-houses were certified for occupation during year.

INSPECTIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS, DRAINS, ETC.—During the year 731 inspections of new buildings, streets and drains thereto were made.

LICENCES.—The following licences were issued during the year :—

Motor Omnibuses and Char-a-bancs	261		
„ (Drivers and Guards)	...	683	
Tiamcars	...	32	
„ (Drivers and Guards)	...	116	
Pleasure Boats	58	Boatmen	3 (Northenden)
„	77	„	18 (Pickmere)
„	3	„	2 (Warburton)
Petrol	...	...	31
Carbide of Calcium	...	...	1
Petrol and Carbide of Calcium			
(combined)	...	...	8
Wooden Bungalows	...	75	
Temporary Buildings	...	100	

PUBLIC LIGHTING.—Timperley. Standardisation of lamp fittings is aimed at wherever possible. The number of breakages of round globe 'Bucket' type lamps was rather heavy for the year and 18 were replaced with square type lanterns having two-light burners. Two new lamps were fitted in Manchester Road and the total number lighted is—197.

Northenden.—Three new lamps were fitted in Longley Lane during the year and many improved two-light burners provided. It is intended to replace all the single upright burners with the two-light pattern. The number of lamps lighted is 89.

Baguley, Brooklands Road.—Following correspondence, the frontagers to this Road fixed or put in order 23 lamps and lighting by the Council commenced on September 17th, 1925. Tenders for painting the whole of the Timperley and Northenden lamps were obtained during the year but the matter was deferred until 1926.

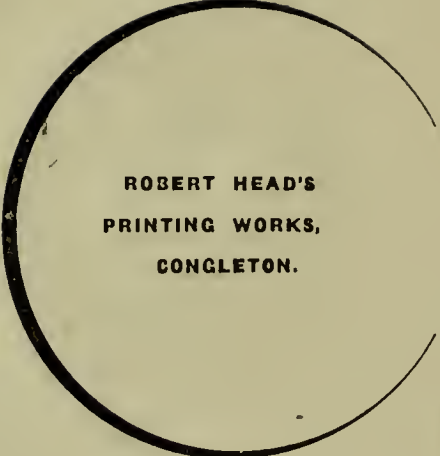
RAINFALL.—The following is a table of the monthly total of rainfall from gauges fixed at Dunham and Northenden Sewage Works also giving the full totals for the year.

Month.	NORTHENDEN.		DUNHAM MASSEY.	
	Inches of Rain.	No. of days on which rain fell.	Inches of Rain.	No. of days on which rain fell.
January	1.70	15	1.70	15
February	5.53	23	4.94	23
March	1.33	12	1.18	15
April	1.93	16	1.65	19
May	4.80	22	4.34	22
June	.12	5	.17	7
July	2.11	9	2.94	11
August	4.65	19	4.37	18
September	4.37	24	4.38	24
October	4.67	19	4.07	19
November	2.74	11	2.79	11
December	1.62	19	1.55	22
Total	35.57	194	35.08	206

In conclusion I have to record my thanks to Mr. Metcalfe, the Sanitary Inspector and his clerk whose services at all times have been readily given; and to thank Mr. Cordon, the Engineer and Surveyor for the information which he has supplied for this Report.

ARTHUR T. BLEASE,
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